

of the Monocacy within the limits of transition from the primary to the groupe of arenaceous rocks, cannot, under existing circumstances, be said to offer any consideration of much moment. Quarries of roofing slate, however, have been opened in several spots—on Bush creek adjoining the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road; in the neighborhood of Unionville, &c. &c.

The results of a minute geological examination should no doubt exhibit every circumstance of any consequence growing out of the mineral constitution of the country, but there are particular spots giving rise to considerations of such superior interest, that, in a general reconnoissance, the attention is forcibly directed towards them. This is the case with that portion of Frederick county, which may for distinction's sake be called its *metalliferous region*, lying east of the Monocacy and extending between Bush creek and Piney run. The metals that occur within it are Copper, Iron, Lead and Manganese.

Veins of copper-ore had, from a very early period in the settlement of our state, been traced through many portions of the country. Upon our oldest maps is found indicated the existence of a copper mine near the Monocacy, between Piney run and Pipe creek. And more recently the ore has been largely extracted between Liberty town and Woodsborough. In fact it has been observed in all directions, and may be said to exist throughout this region. It occurs in the neighborhood of New Market, associated with an ore of *Manganese*; on the Linganore in various places; and in the vicinity of New London on the New Market and Liberty road. But its principal deposits appear to be between Woodsborough and Liberty Town.

The more important veins of the ore, so far discovered in the last named locality, are in Limestone. They consist principally of that variety called the *Sulphuret of copper*, which is known to be the best of copper-ores; for it requires but two simple operations to reduce it to the metallic state; whereas the English and South American ores require from eighteen to twenty distinct meltings. The veins have been pursued with great industry to a considerable extent, and ore to the amount of several hundreds of tons has been extracted from them. But notwithstanding the judgment displayed by the proprietors of the mine so long as the work were in operation, the undersigned are of opinion, from a careful examination of the spot and of the surrounding country, that operations have thus far been